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SIXTEEN PAGES

THIRSTY FOR AMERICAN BLOOD

SOFT AND GENTLE WORDS INSTEAD OF BULLETS AND SHELLS MAY END TROUBLE

President Wilson and Secretary Bryan In Favor of Settlement With Huerta Without Further Bloodshed.

ACCEPT SOUTH AMERICAN PEACE PLAN

Brazil, Argentine and Chile Offer to Mediate and President Says He is Willing They Should Try It.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The United States has agreed that it will accept any proper plan which Brazil, Argentina and Chile can get Mexico to agree to, whereby an honorable settlement of the matters in dispute may be arrived at. The acceptance, however, is coupled with a statement that some aggression on the part of those who control the military forces in Mexico might force this government to act promptly and withdraw this acceptance. But in the meantime, it is agreed that anything which the three South American republics are able to do would be co-operated in by this government.

President Wilson, following a long conference with Secretary Bryan and afterward with the leaders of the foreign relations committee made the following public:

To the President of the United States: With the purpose of subserving the interests of peace and civilization

in our continent and with the earnest desire to prevent any further bloodshed to the prejudice of the cordiality and union which have always surrounded the relations of the governments and peoples of America, we, the plenipotentiaries of Brazil, Argentina and Chile duly authorized thereto, have the honor to tender to your excellency's government our good offices for the peaceful and friendly settlement of the conflict between the United States and Mexico. This offer puts in due form suggestions which we had the occasion to offer heretofore on the subject to Secretary Bryan, to whom we renew the assurances of our highest and most distinguished consideration. (Signed) Dagara, R. S. Naon, Edo Suarez Mujica.

To this message President Wilson, through Secretary of State Bryan, sent the following reply:

The government of the United States is deeply sensible to the friendliness, the

good feeling, and the generous concern for the peace and welfare of America manifested in the joint note just received from your excellencies, tendering the good offices of your government to effect, if possible, a settlement of the present difficulties between the government of the United States and those who now claim to represent our sister republic in Mexico. Conscious of the purpose with which the proffer was made, this government does not feel at liberty to decline it. Its own chief interest in the peace of America, the cordial intercourse of her republics and her people and the happiness and prosperity which can spring only out of frank, mutual understanding and the friendship which is created by common purpose. The generous offer of your government is therefore accepted. This government hopes most earnestly that you may find those who speak for the several elements of the Mexican people, willing and ready to discuss terms of satisfactory and therefore permanent settlement. If you find them willing, this government will be glad to take up with you for discussion in the frank and most conciliatory spirit, any proposals that may be authoritatively formulated and will hope that they may prove feasible and prophetic of a new day of mutual co-operation and confidence in America.

"This government feels bound in candor to say that its diplomatic relations with Mexico being for the present severed, it is not possible for it to make sure of an uninterrupted opportunity to carry out the plan of intermediation which you propose. It is of course, possible some act of aggression on the part of those who control the military forces of Mexico might oblige the United States to act to the upsetting of the hopes of immediate peace but this does not justify us in hesitating to accept your generous suggestion. We shall hope for the best result within a time brief enough to relieve our anxiety lest ill-considered hostile demonstrations should interrupt negotiations and disappoint our hopes of peace."

A. B. C. Diplomacy.
[By John Edwin Nevin, United Press Staff Correspondent.]
WASHINGTON, April 25.—From out of the anarchy, bloodshed and rapine in Mexico tonight, these facts stood out in sharp relief: That the United States will accept the good offices of Argentine, Chile and Brazil in an attempt at mediation—but only on positive assurances that Huerta will go and order and peace be restored in all Mexico. There has been no cessation of our military and navy preparation and this country is prepared to exact vengeance for any massacre of Americans in Mexico. That any plan which provides for adjustment of our difficulties with Mexico must provide for public apology and disavowal of the assault upon

WAR NEWS UP TO DATE

AMERICANS ARE HELD IN MEXICO CITY FOR SLAUGHTER.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
WASHINGTON, April 25.—Wholesale arrests and possible massacres of American and other refugees fleeing to Vera Cruz were reported, which today started all official Washington. Some were taken from trains leaving Mexico City. Four Americans reported killed by mobs in capital, but this report was not officially confirmed.

Reign of mob violence in Mexico City threatening 800 Americans there was officially confirmed. Nineteen Americans and one Englishman reported to have been taken from train near Orizaba by federal soldiers. Consul Canada cabled that it was reported the party "may be executed." No confirmation was received during the day.

Ejection from train of 150 refugees, men, women and children at Yripata, leaving them stranded, destitute and liable to personal violence, was also reported. They have not been heard from since Tuesday or Wednesday.

All wires to Mexico City said by Secretary Bryan to be down. Efforts were made to communicate by the wireless to German embassy there. This complete severance of communication except roundabout through British and Brazilian embassies, caused great concern. Bryan said no message has been received direct since O'Shaughnessy announced his departure. Fate of American embassy in doubt today, Bryan learned O'Shaughnessy had not turned it over to Brazilian government and had turned it over to British embassy. Endeavor made to straighten out tangle and have Brazil take charge.

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BARBARISM MEXICANS

The Class of People Uncle Sam is Dealing With Just Now.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
EL PASO, Texas, April 25.—Americans from Torreon have confirmed the report that an American, Maurice McDonald, was caught by the federals at the first battle of San Pedro, the soles of his feet cut off, and that he was marched through the streets and finally burned at the stake.
The American refugees say that reliable Americans who were in San Pedro at the time of the capture have verified the report that McDonald was killed and tortured before being shot. McDonald's home was in Berkeley, Calif., and he was a gunner for Villa.

ONLY GREATER HUMILIATION

Governor of Texas is Not for Wilson-Bryan Arbitration Plan.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
AUSTIN, Texas, April 25.—Governor Colquitt does not subscribe to the plan proposed by the United States government to settle the dispute between this government and Mexico. When told tonight that the plan of President Wilson was to leave the question to Argentine, Chile and Brazil for arbitration, he declared in effect that it would be greater humiliation than that which this government has been subjected to by Mexico. It would also mean in effect, according to the governor, a recognition of Huerta.

WANTS TO SINK IN A SEA OF BLOOD AS DEFENDER OF HIS OWN COUNTRY

Huerta Had Choice of Defeats and Picked Out One Which Would Leave His Name as Hero.

MAY BE MASSACRE OF 800 AMERICANS

Terrible Vengeance Before He Falls Will Be Meted Out Upon Defenseless, Helpless Foreigners.

[By William G. Shepherd, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

VERA CRUZ, April 25.—Dictator Huerta is willing to be whipped by the United States. He has chosen that course rather than fall before his own countrymen. He wants to go down in a sea of blood as the defender of Mexico.

After nearly a year spent in the Mexican capital, I can state that this is the opinion of all who have seen Huerta almost daily, have observed his habits, know his temperament and his feeling toward the American government. He would stop at nothing to save his own life or at least cause the Mexican people to believe that his shell of a government is real.

Drunk, Huerta has ordered the execution of friends who for the moment opposed him. Sober, he has repented. Eight hundred Americans are now in Mexico City and at the mercy of this stolid, cruel Indian who has built up the semblance of government through treachery, cunning and blood. The sacrifice of eight hundred lives to appease his wild rage, would mean no more to him than one. Spartan-like himself in the face of certain defeat, he is prepared to take terrible vengeance before he falls. The possibility that the American troops may now beat the hordes of Villa from the south, into Mexico City, means that Huerta and the men who have stood by him in his astonishing career will be saved from unspeakable deaths.

Before the Tampico incident, Huerta was defeated and overwhelmed by his own people, the revolutionists. The fall of the capital was not far distant. With his army at outside points deserting him, he read the story of his finish as soon as the real extent of his military weakness became generally known. Huerta knew that within a short time it would be useless for him to expect support from his army in the capital. He might have found a small body of men willing to stand by him to the death, but his end would have been ignominious under such circumstances.

It was merely a choice with the dictator whether he would be crushed by the constitutionalists, or an outside power of far superior strength. He chose the latter. His obstinacy in regard to the Tampico incident was brought on by his desire to have Americans take a hand in the crisis. The same iron power which kept the news of the fall of Torreon from the people has also stifled word of desertions in the south and the generally military weakness.

The tide which Huerta coolly calculated would carry him out as a martyr has set. They have trampled the flag in the dust and torn the coat of arms from the door of the consulate. They have proclaimed the dictator. His hand is poised now. No earthly power may know whether he will strike a final blow before he falls.

The Man Who Stayed Behind.
VERA CRUZ, April 25.—There is a mob around the embassy but they have got to

kill me before they get me." These words spoken over the phone by Louis Datin, legal advisor to the American embassy at Mexico City, comprise the latest news received here. Datin was speaking to W. K. Burns who called him on the phone from the railway station to tell him the last refugee train was about to leave and imploring him to go. "They are threatening to burn the building," said Datin over the phone, to Burns, "but we have eighty rifles and two machine guns which we hid from Huerta's men and we will fight the devils to the last. I am going to stay right here."

Charge O'Shaughnessy left Datin in charge of the building and archives of the embassy. "Datin has proved the hero of the day," said Burns. "He has a few friends there with him and I believe he is determined to defend the American headquarters as long as he is able to fire at the mob. The drunken, half crazy, looting soldiers will stop at nothing.

"I begged Datin to leave, but he would not listen to such an idea. He said he had been left in charge of the American embassy and that he would not desert his post under any circumstances. Huerta thought his men got all the guns out of the embassy but Datin succeeded in hiding eighty rifles and two machine guns, which were taken apart. They were secreted in the basement.

"Datin had the guns brought upstairs and mounted and he was determined to fight

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AMERICANS AS HOSTAGES IN MEXICAN CITIES WHERE THEY HAVE BEEN DISARMED

O'Shaughnessy and Embassy Staff Traded for Wife of General Maas and Others.

BEGGING TO BE SAVED

Guns and Rifles Taken Away From Volunteer Guards in Capital by Huerta.

[By Wm. G. Shepherd, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

VERA CRUZ, April 25.—Every interior city of Mexico is holding American prisoners as hostages. With the exception of Charge Nelson O'Shaughnessy, every member of the diplomatic party arriving here from Mexico City last

night, privately expressed the opinion that only the early arrival of troops in the capital and the overthrow of the Dictator Huerta will save the marooned Americans. At almost every town between Vera Cruz and Mexico City, Americans are being held as prisoners. This I learned upon meeting O'Shaughnessy and his party four miles from Vera Cruz where they were transferred from the special train furnished by Huerta to the American train that bore them into this city. The passage of Charge O'Shaughnessy's train from the capital was most dramatic. The charge, with his wife and son, Consul General Shanklin and members of the embassy staff left Mexico City at midnight Thursday. Mobs were then in front of the embassy. At the station Americans be-

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PEONS IN A WILD PANIC WHEN AMERICAN AEROPLANES FIRST FLY OVER VERA CRUZ

Snipers in Sand Hills Frozen in Their Tracks With Terror and Then Flee.

THE PLUCKY GERMAN

Ambassador Told Mexican Federal Soldiers That They Could Not Have His Guns.

[By Bernard Rucker, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

VERA CRUZ, April 25.—Wild panic seized Mexican snipers in the sand hills beyond the outskirts of Vera Cruz today. At first, frozen in their tracks with terror when a strange purring was heard from the sky, they were soon seized with but one de-

sire and that was to flee toward the interior. Aeroplanes from the battleship Mississippi had taken the air and reconcoitered over the entire Mexican camp.

Marines and blue jackets have been placed about the city to watch the Mexicans who have been entrenched in the sandhills further out. Constant sniping had been kept up by the natives, but it suddenly ceased today when the aeroplanes appeared.

The two aeroplanes ascended from the deck of the warship swinging at anchor in the harbor. They circled above the city and then headed for the hills. The purring of the motors could be heard throughout Vera Cruz and when it sounded over the Mexicans, the utmost confusion immediately reigned. Rapid preparations were made by the Mexicans to

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